

INTRODUCTION

Altar servers must have a deep sense of the spirit of the liturgy and be trained to perform their functions in a correct and orderly manner. As a Server you have a special ministry in the Church. It is your privilege to assist the priest at the Altar.

Being a server means serving God and his people at mass. That is what makes serving Mass worth doing, and worth doing well. That is what makes good servers want to do their best. Part of the ministry of servers is to help "set the pace" for all who take part in the Mass. What you do there and how you do it can help other people to understand the Mass better and make their love for God stronger. A good server not only serves Sunday Mass, but also makes themselves available for other services. The people in church will be watching you carefully. They are not so interested to see if you make mistakes, but they like to see what it means to be really involved in the Mass. People will take more interest in the Mass if they see you taking more interest in it while you serve.

Altar Servers are very fortunate that he/she has been chosen by God to give his service during the celebration of the liturgy. The liturgy is a public act of worship that the church gives to God, so the service of the Altar Server is extremely important. The role of the Altar Server is very important because he/she is one of the closest persons to the Altar and to the Priest representing Jesus Christ during the celebration of the Holy Mass and the administration of the Sacraments. The service of the Altar Server is very appreciated by the church. Good Altar Servers give their service with major attention and respect. Your behavior is a very important aspect because it is an example to other Servers that wish to serve on the altar.

Requirements to be an Altar Server:

An altar server should have received the sacraments of First Communion and Reconciliation.

A server will learn the main prayers of the Mass: The Gloria, Our Father, Nicene Creed and the Holy, Holy, Holy.

A server will learn the names of the places in the church (ie. sanctuary, altar, sacristy).

A server will learn the items used in the Mass and what they are used for (ie chalice, corporal, sacramentary, etc.).

Be an active member of the parish community and believe in the teachings of the Holy Catholic Church.